

## RATIFICATION OF AGREEMENT WITH CERTAIN INDIANS.

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JUNE 3, 1898.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

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Mr. LITTLE, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, submitted the following

### REPORT.

[To accompany S. 3596.]

The Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was referred Senate bill No. 3596, having had the same under consideration, return the same to the House with the recommendation that it do pass.

The bill provides for the ratification of a treaty negotiated and made between the Commission of the United States to the Five Civilized Tribes of Indians, known as the Dawes Commission, and the Seminole Tribe or Nation of Indians, at Muscogee, Ind. T., on the 16th day of December, 1897. Said treaty has been ratified by the Seminole Nation by a large and decisive vote of its council, and awaits the approval of Congress to become effective.

It provides for the allotment of the lands of said nation in severalty, all of the members of said tribe to share equally. It also carries provisions for town sites, and contemplates the early abandonment of their tribal government and the acceptance of a government more suited to their condition and advancement.

This tribe has been the first to accept an agreement looking to the allotment of their lands in severalty and the abolition of their tribal government, and the terms of the agreement being satisfactory to the members of the tribe, your committee believe the Government ought to show a disposition to meet the wishes of these people as far as it can do so with justice to the Indian people.

The treaty carries no charge against the Government.

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